

Message Text

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45

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 FTC-01 TAR-02 TRSE-00

STR-08 EUR-25 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 OMB-01 FEA-02 SIL-01

LAB-06 SCA-01 DRC-01 /117 W
----- 005340

R 081955Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9552

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GEORGETOWN 0530

E.OM 11652: N/A DECONTROL ON RECEIPT

TAGS: ETRD, ENRG, GOV, GY

SUBJECT: GOG IMPOSES PRIOR LICENSING REQUIREMENT FOR ALL IMPORTS:
OTHER RESTRICTIONS LIKELY

REF: GEORGETOWN 0141

1. GOG MINISTER OF TRADE ANNOUNCED ON APRIL 4 THAT ALL IMPORTS
WILL REQUIRE SPECIFIC APPROVAL OF GOVERNMENT. LICENSING PROCEDURE
TO BE USED. IN ADDITION GOG PLANS TO LEVY A ONE DOLLAR (GUYANESE)
STAMP DUTY ON EACH \$1,000 (G) OF IMPORTS BY VALUE. RELIABLE
SOURCE INFORMS THAT GOG DRAFTING NEW CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION
REQUIRING EXIT PERMITS FOR ALL NATIONALS WHO PLAN FOREIGN
TRAVEL.

2. COMMENT: WITH GUYANA'S RESERVES LEVEL REMAINING AT PRECARIOUS
\$10-12 MILLION(US) DURING FIRST QUARTER, GOG FORCED TO TAKE MORE
DRACONIAN MEASURES TO STEM FOREIGN EXCHANGE OUTFLOW AND INCREASE
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DOMESTIC SAVINGS. INCREASED COST OF PETROLEUM AND DERIVATIVES AGAIN

CITED AS MAIN CAUSE OF CRISIS. NO DETAILS AVAILABLE YET CONCERN-
ING IMPORT LICENSING IMPLEMENTATION, BUT CAN EXPECT USUAL
BUREAUCRATIC INTERFERENCE WITH NORMAL TRADE PRACTICES. WHILE
LICENSING DISRUPTIVE TO TRADE, EXIT PERMIT REQUIREMENT GETS INTO
MORE DELICATE QUESTION OF PERSONAL FREEDOM. GOG NOT RPT NOT
LIKELY TO ENFORCE EXIT TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS UNLESS OTHER MEASURES
FAIL. KREBS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, PETROLEUM, IMPORT CONTROLS, SPEECHES, PRICE TRENDS, IMPORT LICENSES, AD VALOREM DUTIES, EXIT PERMITS, FOREIGN EXCHANGE CONTROLS
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: ETRD, ENRG, PGOV, GY, (KING, KENNETH)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005